

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Susan E. Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

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Colorado Department of Local Affairs

Susan Kirkpatrick is the executive director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Prior to her appointment by Governor Bill Ritter in January 2007, she was the director of Institutional Advancement for Aims Community College, and chief executive officer for the Aims Community College Foundation.

Kirkpatrick served as mayor of Fort Collins from 1990 – 1993, and was a member of the Fort Collins City Council from 1986 – 1990.

Her employment in post-secondary education began in 1974 and has included serving as an assistant professor at the University of Northern Colorado from 1992 – 1997, and a political science instructor at Colorado State University from 1988 - 1991.

Her extensive involvement in community activities and organizations includes service as a board member of the Poudre Valley Health System, vice president and executive director of the National Audubon Society's Colorado office from 1999 – 2002, and a founding member and chair of Great Outdoors Colorado from 1993 – 1997.

Kirkpatrick received her BA in Political Science from the University of Michigan, an Ed.M. from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Colorado State University.

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs' mission, "*Strengthening Colorado Communities,*" is carried out through a wide range of essential services to citizens and local governments including specialized training, technical and financial assistance. A diverse agency, DOLA includes the Colorado Division of Emergency Management, the Division of Housing, Division of Local Government, the Board of Assessment Appeals, and the Division of Property Taxation.

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